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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/688,463 | 10/16/2000 | Gotthard Schmid | A-2570 | 1413 |

7590 04/09/2002

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EXAMINER

YAN, REN LUO

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
| 2854 | |

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application N . | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/688,463 | SCHMID, GOTTHARD | |
| | Examiner Ren L Yan | Art Unit 2854 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12 and 13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8, 10 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 1-11 in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged.
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Giori et al(6,101,939). The patent to Giori et al teaches the structure of a sheet printing machine as claimed including a first printing unit having a common impression cylinder and four printing devices assigned thereto, and a second printing unit coupled with the first printing unit for in-line printing operation. The second printing unit is provided with a metering device at 25 including an ink trough, a dip roller and a metering roller for transferring ink during printing. With respect to claims 5 and 8, the blanket cylinder 22 of Giori et al satisfies the requirement. With respect to claim 10, the recited dryer can be readily seen in Giori et al as UV lamps 27 and 28.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giori et al in view of Kolbe et al(6,016,748). Giori et al may not show the use of a chamber type doctor blade. Chamber doctor blade coupled with a screen roller for transferring ink is well known and widely used in printing art. Kolbe et al in Figs. 1-3 show such a well known inking device. It would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art to provide the ink device of Giori et al with a chamber doctor blade and a screen roller in order to achieve the same ink transfer operation.

6. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giori et al. The present disclosure stated that varies types of printing cylinder can be used for the applicator cylinder of the second printing unit. Since the recited types of printing cylinders are all well known and due to the lack of disclosure showing any criticality, it would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art to equip the second printing unit of Giori et al with the type of applicator cylinder based upon the desired printing outcome.

7. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giori et al in view of Rodi(5,115,741). Giori et al teach to use UV lamps 27 and 28 for drying the printed sheet. Rodi teaches a device for drying printed sheets and suggested to use a UV excimer laser as the dryer for ensuring optimum drying of the printed product. See the paragraph bridging

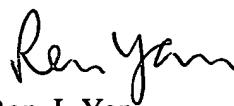
columns 6 and 7 in Rodi for example. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the sheet printing machine of Giori et al with UV excimer laser dryer to achieve improved drying operation.

8. Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The overall combination as claimed including particularly a second printing unit having a rotatable shaft bearing a numbering unit and a imprinting stamp is not taught by the prior art of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ren L Yan whose telephone number is 703-308-0978. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on 703-305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-5841 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.


Ren L Yan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854

Ren Yan
April 3, 2002